

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 NIC-01 /143 W

----- 052165

R 091330Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7110

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 1357

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BU,IS

SUBJECT: GOB ISSUES DECLARATION ON MID-EAST CONFLICT

REF: SOFIA 1352

1. FOLLOWING SOVIET DECLARATION BY ONE DAY, GOB OCT 8 ISSUED OFFICIAL DECLARATION CONDEMNING "RENEWAL OF ISRAELI AGGRESSIVE MILITARY OPERATIONS" AGAINST ARABS. PRESENT CONFLICT IS, IN GOB VIEW, "DIRECT CONTINUATION OF 1967 ISRAELI AGGRESSION." AND FOLLOWS SYSTEMATIC VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAWS BY ISRAEL, SUPPORTED BY "CERTAIN IMPERIALIST AND ZIONIST CIRCLES." DECLARATION WARNS THAT CONTINUATION OF SUCH AGGRESSIVE POLICY "MIGHT COST ISRAEL PEOPLE DEARLY." STATEMENT CONCLUDES WITH EXPRESSION OF BULGARIAN SUPPORT FOR "JUST STRUGGLE OF ALL ARAB PEOPLES, INCLUDING PALESTINIAN ARABS, IN FIGHT AGAINST IMPERIALISM, ZIONISM AND AGGRESSION."

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2. PRESS AS OF OCTOBER 9 CONTINUES TO RELY HEAVILY

ON TASS AND OTHER SOVIET SOURCES AND IS NOT  
OVER DRAMATIZATION OF CONFLICT. (STORY, FOR  
EXAMPLE, IS GIVEN EQUAL PLAY WITH ZHIVKOV VISIT  
TO AUSTRIA WHICH BEGINS TODAY.)

3. MILITIA CORDONED OFF STREET IN FRONT OF EMBASSY  
AFTERNOON OCTOBER 8 TO VEHICULAR TRAFFIC AND  
PEDESTRIANS MUST WALK ON OPPOSITE SIDEWALK.  
THREE MILITIA ALSO STATIONED AT RESIDENCE AS PRO-  
TECTIVE FORCE.

4. COMMENT: GOB DECLARATION OF SUPPORT IS RELATIVELY  
MILD AND IS MINIMUM EXPECTED. BULGARS SEEM TO BE  
FOLLOWING SOVIET REACTION CAREFULLY IN ORDER TO STAY  
IN STEP. HOWEVER, GOB'S DECLARATION SEEMS TO GO FURTHER  
THAN THE SOVIET TOWARDS ACCUSING ISRAELI'S OF HAVING  
TAKEN FIRST MILITARY STEPS IN PRESENT CONFLICT, AS  
WELL AS SINGLING OUT PALESTINIANS AS OBJECT OF  
BULGARIAN SUPPORT. DECLARATION, HOWEVER, IS SUFFICIENTLY  
CAREFULLY WORDED TO LEAVE LEEWAY FOR ALTERING AS NECESSARY.  
BATJER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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